

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 15 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, in view of the above corrective amendments.

Claim 1 has been amended, and 18 has been canceled without prejudice (as it would appear to be a duplicate of allowable claim 15 if amended as suggested by the Examiner), thereby rendering their rejections moot; however, those rewritten claims containing claim 1 have been amended to overcome the rejection of claim 1.

Furthermore, the words "is long along" have been replaced by "so as to extend in...".

As required by the Examiner, Applicant has also revised and amended other claims "to correct all other deficiencies similar to the ones noted above".

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 3, 10, 11 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by (lacking novelty over) WO '032 (Morita-6,680,818), insofar as this rejection may be applied to these claims as amended above.

The Examiner indicated that claims 4-9, 12-15 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) requires that WO '032 disclose, either expressly or inherently, each limitation of each of the claims 1, 3, 10, 11 and 19, or in other words, that each of these claims be **readable** on the disclosure WO '032. Applicant respectfully submits that clearly such is not the case here.

More specifically, the portion "26" in WO '032 is merely a "hole" extending in the moving direction. In **contrast**, the "guide portion" recited in Applicant's claim 1 is a groove

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formed at the bottom portion of the reel hub so as to extend in the moving direction and toward the radial direction outer side from the pass-through hole.

Thus, since claim 1 and its dependent claims are **not readable** on the disclosure of WO '818, these claims are **incapable of being anticipated** by the disclosure of this reference.

In this regard, Examiner Nguyen will note that claim 1 has been amended to contain the "pass-through hole" limitation corresponding to the limitation of the **allowable** claim 4. This limitation further avoids readability of the amended claim 1 on the disclosure of WO '032.

Applicant cancels claim 18 without prejudice (even though the Examiner indicated that this claim would be allowable if rewritten to "overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph").

New claim 20 is like claim 19 but **dependent** on the allowable claim 15.

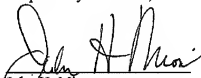
Thus, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), and to find the application to be in condition for **allowance with claims 1, 3-15, 17, 19 and 20**; however, if for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to **call the undersigned attorney** to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

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Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, and any required fee for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or § 1.17 necessary to keep this application pending in the Patent and Trademark Office or credit any overpayment to said Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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